

AF BIOR - WUKASCH, CHARLES GEORGE, 1875-1954

Wukasches Pass Golden Anniversary Today

By TRACY TOTHILL

Celebration of a golden wedding anniversary here Sunday will see the reunion of the majority of the wedding party who witnessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Charley G. Wukasch in the Serbin community Lutheran Church August 10, 1903.

The couple of 611 West 23rd Street will receive congratulations of friends and relatives at an open house scheduled from 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday at the home of a son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wukasch, 719 Carolyn Avenue.

MEMBERS OF a prominent Austin family, Mr. and Mrs. Wukasch are remembered affectionately throughout the state by thousands of former students of the University

of Texas whenever they think of Charlie's Confectionary, an early day campus institution.

The first eating establishment located in the University area, "Charlie's" was the third business to open on The Drag—others were a saloon and a bank—and went into operation around 1901.

Wukasch, who was born Jan. 29, 1875, in Serbin, volunteered for service in the Spanish-American War before coming to Austin about 1900.

An ardent supporter of the University through the past half-century, Wukasch who himself had only a third grade education has lived to see all his children receive their degrees from the University.

When Wukasch first went into business here (with \$300 borrowed from relatives), the University physical plant consisted of one building located on the site of the present Tower building, he recalls.

The economy in those days was different too, he says, with an eating establishment actually making its own ice cream, pies, candies, chili or anything else it offered for sale.

"Charlie's" was originally a confectionary where sweets and light snacks could be obtained but through the years it blossomed into the number one restaurant on The Drag.

Wukasch still owns the property, at 23rd and Guadalupe, but now the building there is leased by a men's furnishings firm.

A spectacular fire in 1919 that gutted the complete north end of the block wiped Wukasch out.

But by 1920 he had refinanced and rebuilt on an even larger scale and he remained head of the business until his son, Walter, took over in 1929. The senior Wukasch remained active in the establishment until the early 1930s when Walter went into his present business, Charlie's Liquor Store.

For more than a decade after his retirement, the senior Wukasch devoted himself to church and civic work and for years was an elder of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

In addition to being active in the Chamber of Commerce and the Retail Merchants Association, Wukasch aided in such public solicitation drives for the University as those for funds for the Memorial Stadium and the Union Building.

Anything sponsored by the Ex-Students Association, too, would do

will be Mrs. Wukasch's wedding veil and the veil her daughter used 25 years ago along with pictures of both weddings.

Miss Joyce Schade of Giddings will keep the guest book while those assisting with the serving will include Miss Connie Swiedom of Davenport, Iowa, Mrs. Henry Wukasch, Mrs. Charlie Hilsberg and Miss Lavonia Hannusch.

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Mrs. Wukasch was born Sept. 16, 1884, in Serbin, and came to Austin following her marriage.

Last week she made her first airplane trip—to Davenport, Iowa, to attend the wedding of the first of her grandchildren to marry—and she's still enthused about the experience.

"It's the only way to travel," she says.

The proud day when all three of the couple's children had earned degrees from the University came in 1941 when their son, Martin, now senior engineer, industrial hygiene section, State Department of Health, was graduated with a degree in chemical engineering.

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Wukasch, Charles
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Walter received his bachelor of business administration degree in 1929.

At the Sunday festivities Mrs. Wukasch will wear a mauve rose floor length lace gown and pearl carbobs. Her only other jewelry will be the gold wedding band which her husband placed on her finger 50 years ago. Her corsage will be of white carnations.

RECEIVING with the couple will be their three children and their children's spouses.

All their grandchildren will be present with the exception of Mrs. Alan Riedinger who is on her honeymoon.

Members of the original wedding party to be present Sunday are Mrs. Wukasch's matron-of-honor, Mrs. Henry Schmidt of Winchester, and two bridesmaids, Misses Louise and Martha Wukasch, both of Austin. Best man and ushers to be present are Henry and Jerry Wukasch, both of Austin, and John Hannusch of Winchester.

On display during the open house

WUKASCH & ASSOCIATES

Eugene Wukasch, 1921-

Born in 1921 in Austin, Eugene Wukasch received his bachelor's degree in architectural engineering from the University of Texas in 1943. He later attended the University of Southern California and the University of Houston.

Wukasch worked as a structural engineer for Lockheed Aircraft Corporation in Burbank prior to service in the US Navy from 1944 to 1946. After his military service he worked ^{in Fort Worth} as a draftsman for Wyatt C. Hedrick, Architect and Engineer, and as a structural engineer, designer, and draftsman for Preston M. Geren, Architect and Engineer; ^{in Houston} and as an architect and structural engineer for Mosher Steel Company. Before organizing his own firm, ~~he~~ he also worked with Staub & Rather, Houston, and Jessen, Jessen, Millhouse & Greeven.

He has practiced in Austin since 1954--from 1972 to 1974 in a partnership with William A Moellendorf, and from 1977 to 1979, with Girard Kinney as a partner. He now ^{has a} ~~serves in~~ private practice, ~~as~~ Wukasch & Associates.

The first years of Wukasch's practice were ^{devoted to} ~~spent in~~ design services for residences ~~and residential services~~. His firm expanded in the 1960s and 1970s; ~~and~~ its project list included public buildings, military projects, medical care and retirement facilities, churches, and schools. In 1955 Wukasch designed a "heated only" residence, almost a prototype for today's solar energy designs. In the 1960s he was qualified and certified by the Department of Defense as a fall-out shelter analyst and he has since served as consultant on underground, natural disaster and population defense structures.

Among the most significant Austin projects by Wukasch & Associates are the Katherine and Ralph Lane ^{"heated only"} Residence (1956), ~~the "heated only" residence~~ at 309 Buckeye Trail, Gethsemane Lutheran Church (1963) at 200 West Anderson Lane, Westminster Manor (1965, 1976) at 4200 Jackson Avenue, the Carrington-Covert House restoration (1972) at 1511 Colorado, and Symphony Square (1977) at 1101 Red River.

AF Bay Wukasch, Charles George (8)

Wukasch, Henry

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SUNDAY AMERICAN-STATESMAN, AUSTIN, TEXAS

N. d.

[1963]

After 42 Years, Merchant Retires To Take Up Hobbies

By WILLIAM J. WEEG

The American-Statesman Staff

Henry Wukasch has closed up shop and gone fishing.

After spending 42 years in the general mercantile business the 66-year-old Austin business man decided he would retire and indulge in his hobbies of fishing and hunting and look after his extensive property interests, including special attention to a fine citrus orchard of 121-2 acres seven miles from Brownsville.

Having disposed of all of his merchandise stock and fixtures during the last few weeks, Wukasch locked the door at his general merchandise store at 104-106 West First Street for the last time on Sept. 30. The following morning the place was opened as a wholesale meat market serving hotels, restaurants and boarding houses by Marvin and Raymond Knippa, who have leased the building.

And to climax his first week of retirement, Wukasch celebrated his 66th birthday anniversary Saturday.

With his retirement from business came the termination of a business institution that was one of the best known and most popular in Central Texas, for the Wukasch general store was the gathering place of farmers and ranchmen within 75 miles of Austin. Here came men and women from Giddings to exchange news with those from Fredericksburg and those from Walburg mingled with visitors from Burnet.

Into this general store came the pecans, butter, eggs, chickens and turkeys from the farms throughout Central Texas to be exchanged for flour, sugar, and a lot of other items that the farmers needed in their households.

Many Stories Told

Into the Wukasch store came the hunters in quest of shells and the fishermen seeking rods and reels and tackle and hooks. Many fishing and hunting stories were told within the four walls of this institution.

Citizens of Austin found the Wukasch store the place to find items they were looking for. Here could be purchased anything from a needle up to a plow.

"In fact, I would sell a man a coffin if he wanted one," Wukasch asserted.

It was on June 7, 1904, that Henry Wukasch, then 24 years of age, decided to invest \$150 in a store and with T. J. Christal of Austin, he opened in a building at 100-102 Congress Avenue under the name of Christal and Wukasch. After eight years of operation under this partnership, Wukasch purchased Christal's interest in January, 1912, the purchase including the store, buildings and fixtures. The firm had acquired the two buildings at 104-106 West First Street which then were used as warehouses for the general merchandise store stock.

Tribute Paid Partner



LAST WEIGH—Henry Wukasch, 66-year-old Austin general merchant, weighs a ham at the store which he closed last Monday night where he had weighed hams and other merchandise for 42 years, thus terminating an institution that was a landmark in Central Texas.

joining the two-story frame residence on Speedway where Henry and Matilda Wukasch reared their two children, Rudolph Wukasch and Martha Wukasch, the latter now Mrs. Martha Christal, who has been living in Memphis, Tenn., for the past 10 years.

Wukasch paid tribute to Mrs. Wukasch and the two children for their loyal cooperation and help in making the Wukasch general merchandise one of the leading business firms in Austin for more than four decades.

Early Prices Quoted

Mrs. Christal, the daughter, served as bookkeeper and cashier for 10 or 12 years while Rudolph was reared in the store and worked there for more than 30 years. When Mrs. Christal moved to Memphis, Mrs. Wukasch took over the duties of cashier and Rudolph served as bookkeeper.

During the early years of the

other citrus fruits—on it, produced 100 tons, but with closer supervision could have yielded 200 tons," he added.

During his leisure hours at home, Wukasch likes to work with flowers and shrubs and he has gained a neighborhood reputation for the various varieties of flowers to be found in the garden in the rear of his home.

In between time he plans to pursue his favorite diversions of hunting and fishing. His favorite fishing place is Cow Creek about 40 miles from Austin in the hills west of here.

Just about that time one of his fishing companions entered the door of the First Street store.

"He's waiting for me now to go fishing with him," Wukasch remarked.

With that, Wukasch finished the story of his 42 years in business,

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Six years afterwards, Wukasch leased the Congress Avenue location to the Grayburg Oil Company for use as a filling station. The building was razed and Wukasch moved the store to the West First Street location where he operated the store until he retired from business last Monday night.

"Christal was my first partner who helped to start me in business," Wukasch said in tribute.

"My next good partner was my wife, who helped me to build the business."

His wife and partner in the business was Mrs. Matilda Wukasch, who died six years ago, after serving for 32 years as his mate and helper. Wukasch 18 months ago married Mrs. Annabel Carter of Austin and they are making their home at 104 East 26th Street, ad-



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During the early years of the store's operation, Wukasch said he paid farmers 5 cents a dozen for eggs and sold them to his customers at 25 cents for three dozen in contrast to today when eggs are selling for a nickel apiece and more. Sugar was quoted at 20 pounds for \$1 and it took only a dollar to buy 20 pounds of salt bacon. Hams, which now cost 58 to 60 cents a pound if obtainable at all, used to sell anywhere from 93-4 to 121-2 cents a pound, while butter could be purchased at Wukasch's in the early days for 10 to 15 cents a pound in comparison with 75 to 85 cents a pound in 1946.

"Now that I have disposed of my business I am going to pay more attention to my orchard near Brownsville," Wukasch declared. "Last year the orchard, which has 788 trees—grapefruit, oranges and

other citrus fruits—on it, produced 100 tons, but with closer supervision could have yielded 200 tons," he added.

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With that, Wukasch finished the story of his 42 years in business, put on his hat, and joined his fishing partner for an afternoon of relaxation.

AF- BIO GRADY

Wukasch, Charles

Wukasch, Martin C

MARTIN C. WUKASCH

Martin C. Wukasch, 630, of 6457 Hart Lane, died suddenly Wednesday afternoon. He was born in Austin on February 20, 1915. Wukasch obtained a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Texas and an M.S. in Public Health Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology. He was a registered professional engineer and at the time of his death was the Director of the Texas Radiation Control Agency and the Division of Occupational Health and Radiation Control for the Texas State Health Department.

Mr. Wukasch was noted for his achievements and was listed in Who's Who in the Southwest; Who's Who in Texas; Who's Who in Atoms, the Dictionary of International Biography and Personalities of the South. He held memberships in the Health Physics Society, Society of Nuclear Medicine; Southwestern Society of Nuclear Medicine; 2nd Vice-President (1969-71) and currently on Board of Trustees, American Public Health Association (Fellow) (Past Chairman, Radiological Health Section); Texas Public Health Association; Travis County, Texas, and National Societies of Professional Engineers; American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists; American Industrial Hygiene Association; Conference of Radiological Health (Past President); Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors; Suburban Alcoholic Foundation; Texas District Lutheran Church (Board Member) representative on Lutheran Social Services of Texas; Optimists International (Past President), Past Lt. Governor and Life Member.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Hyttin-Manor Funeral Chapel with Rev. Edwin Schwanke officiating. Interment will be in the Bagdad Cemetery at Leander. Pallbearers will be Ed Bailey, Joe Thiel, Joe Nanus, Raymond Frank, Dave Lacker. Those who wish may make memorial contributions to the Advent Ev. Lutheran Church, 3000 N. IH35; or to the Suburban A.A. Club, Austin.

Wukasch Plans

Radiation Talks

An Austin man, Martin C. Wukasch, has been invited to present two papers at the Second Congress of the International Radiation Protection Association May 3-8 in Brighton, England.

Wukasch, chief of the radiation control program, Division of Occupational Health and Radiation Control of the Texas State Department of Health, will present the papers on: "Environmental Radiological Surveillance in Texas" and "A Study of Overexposure Incidents in Texas."

The scientific sessions and exhibitions will cover all aspects of radiological protection and will emphasize the theme, "Radiation and Man."

Texas has the third largest licensing program and the largest geographic area among the several agreement states. The burden of measuring hazards incident to the protection of both public and radiation worker health is very extensive. Legal responsibility for the program is invested in the Texas State Department of Health. *AA. 2-4 70*

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AF BIO

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Mr. Wukasch is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ruth Wukasch of Austin; three sons, Charles Wukasch of Houston, Ken Wukasch of Port Lavaca and Jim Wukasch of Austin; one daughter, Mrs. Jan Simons of Austin; one brother, Walter Wukasch of Austin; sister, Mrs. Edna Swledom of Davenport, Iowa; and three grandchildren.

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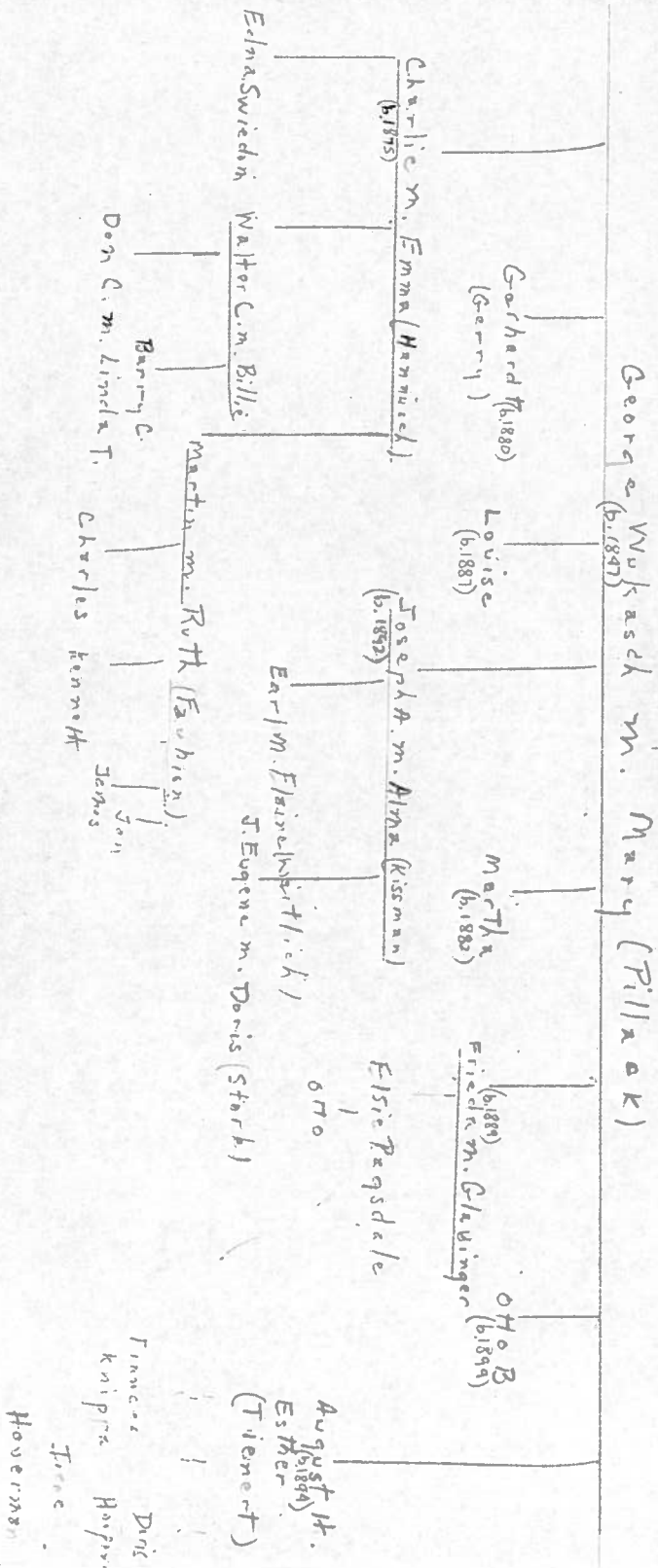
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Wurksch, Charles George

Wurksch family

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WALTER WUKASCH

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Wukasch To Head Retail Liquor Unit

Walter Wukasch, Austin retail liquor dealer and head of the Charles's Liquor Stores chain, has been named president of the 800-member Texas package Stores Association, at its annual convention in San Antonio.

Wukasch has been prominent in the organization for many years. He served as secretary-treasurer for four years; as a vice president for two years; and as a member of the board of directors for the past eight years.

Named to serve with him for the 1962-63 term were Jack Richardson of Houston and Harry Feldman of Harlingen, vice presidents; and Sidney Sigel of Dallas, secretary-treasurer. Wukasch, a native of Austin, and a graduate of The University of Texas, operated Charles's Confectionery before Texas legalized the sale of liquor. He is a past president of the Lutheran

Laymen's League, and of the Texas Badminton Association. He also served as president last year of the Capital City Bridge unit, a member of the American Contract Bridge Association. He is a former member of the Lions

Measles Toll High

SUVA, Fiji — A measles epidemic that swept the Fiji Islands in 1975 struck almost the entire population of 150,000—and 40,000 died.

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The Austin American Austin, Texas, Friday, August 10, 1962—Page 18

Club, and a member of the Austin Retail Merchants Association. Wukasch is married to the former Billie Teyd of Elgin, a graduate of UT, and they are parents of two sons who also are Texas Exes.

Dr. Don Wukasch, who received his medical degree at Baylor, is now interning at Jefferson Davis Hospital in Houston under Dr. DeBakey, the famed heart specialist. Barry Wukasch, who graduated from UT last year and then completed Officer Candidate School at Newport News, Va., is now a naval ensign serving aboard the USS Edem, a destroyer specializing in submarine warfare. The Wukasch home is at 719 Carolyn Avenue in Austin.

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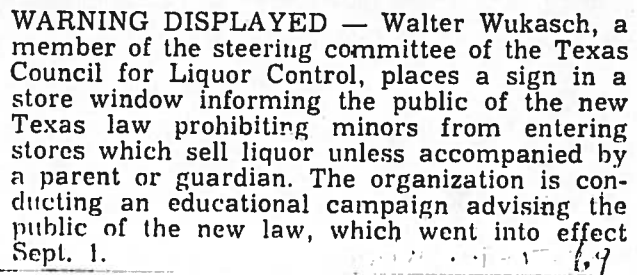
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HF-Big Wukasch, Walter

Wukasch, Walter

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American Statesman
9/5/69

SAN ANTONIO, Aug. 8 (AP)—Members of the Texas Package Store Association Wednesday elected Rayford McNabb, Corpus Christi, president.

Others elected at the group's convention were Kenneth Whipple, Amarillo, and Don Nurick, San Antonio, vice presidents, and Walter Wukasch, Austin, who was reelected secretary treasurer.

August 8, 1957

Wukasz, Kim (Hammerson)

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Wukasz, Charles
Wukasz, Kim
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THE AMERICAN-STATESMAN, AUSTIN, TEXAS Sunday, August 9, 1953



MR. AND MRS. CHARLEY G. WUKASCH
... Their Golden Wedding Anniversary

FIXTURES AROUND U.T.

AP-BLD
Wukasch Center
Wukasch Family
2 of 2

Wukasches Pass Golden Anniversary Today

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Anything sponsored by the Ex-Students Association, too, could depend on a contribution from him.

Orphaned at an early age, he was reared by relatives and recalls that his first paying job netted him \$4 per month plus room and board.

HE WAS THE first Wukasch to migrate to Austin but a number of his brothers and sisters followed him here and opened businesses of their own.

Mrs. Wukasch was born Sept. 16, 1884, in Serbin, and came to Austin following her marriage.

Last week she made her first airplane trip—to Davenport, Iowa, to attend the wedding of the first of her grandchildren to marry—and she's still enthused about the experience.

"It's the only way to travel," she says.

The proud day when all three of the couple's children had earned degrees from the University came in 1941 when their son, Martin, now senior engineer, industrial hygiene section, State Department of Health, was graduated with a degree in chemical engineering.

Their daughter, Mrs. E. A. Swiedom of Davenport, was graduated in 1925 with a degree in architectural engineering—the first female engineer to be graduated at the University.

Walter received his bachelor of business administration degree in 1929.

At the Sunday festivities Mrs. Wukasch will wear a mauve rose floor length lace gown and pearl carbobs. Her only other jewelry will be the gold wedding band which her husband placed on her finger 50 years ago. Her corsage will be of white carnations.

RECEIVING with the couple will be their three children and their children's spouses.

All their grandchildren will be present with the exception of Mrs. Alan Biedinger who is on her honeymoon.

Members of the original wedding party to be present Sunday are Mrs. Wukasch's matron-of-honor, Mrs. Henry Schmidt of Winchester, and two bridesmaids, Misses Louise and Martha Wukasch, both of Austin. Best man and ushers to be present are Henry and Jerry Wukasch, both of Austin, and John Hannusch of Winchester.

On display during the open house

will be Mrs. Wukasch's wedding veil and the veil her daughter used 25 years ago along with pictures of both weddings.

Miss Joyce Schade of Giddings will keep the guest book while those assisting with the serving will include Miss Connie Swiedom of Davenport, Iowa, Mrs. Henry Wukasch, Mrs. Charlie Hilsberg and Miss Lavonia Hannusch.

AF-8028 (11)
Wukasch, Susan
1954

A TREE GROWS IN AUSTIN--
MY FAMILY TREE

Susan Wukasch
Eleventh Grade
S. F. Austin High School

Home Address:
2500 Inwood Place
Austin, Texas

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1F - BIOGRAPHY Charles G., 1875-1954
Wukasch, Susan. A tree grows
in Austin - my family tree.

A TREE GROWS IN AUSTIN-- MY FAMILY TREE

Austin has had a long and colorful history, made so by the many people, great and small, who have lived here. In many instances, the famous people could not have achieved so much, had it not been for the simple, little people--tradesmen, carpenters, shop keepers, etc. Therefore, instead of doing a history of one of Austin's most illustrious families, I chose to trace the story of a simple, but warm-hearted family--my own.

The history of the family falls into four categories, corresponding roughly to the four generations in America: first, the immigrant farmers, second, tradespeople and shop keepers, third, college graduates and professional people, and fourth, the present, inquisitive group of young people who look both into the past and into the future with anticipation. It is particularly fascinating to recognize traits of character in my forbears which seem to reappear, sometimes in slightly altered form, in succeeding generations. This family, generally, has been a solid, "building" force in the community from the days of my great great grandfather's sawmill operation to my own father's practice of architecture. In between were members of various building crews and committees, intent on building up the country they had adopted as their homeland.

The first Wukasch to come to Austin was Charles, who arrived in 1898. To better understand the reasons for his coming here, it is necessary to trace the origin of the Wukasch

family in Texas.

Mr great great grandfather, Matthaus Wukasch, was born in Buchwalde, Hoyerswerda, Prussia on August 31, 1798. He was Wendish by birth, a member of a Slavic minority group that for many years had been oppressed by their Prussian rulers, who were ever trying to Germanize them. This oppression became too great when in 1817 the government decreed a union of several churches, without the consent of the churches involved. At this interference of the state with church matters, a number of Lutheran Wends decided to leave Prussia. So in 1854 some 566 Wendish working men sailed for Texas. Texas was to the Wends what Plymouth was to the Pilgrims--an escape from economic, political, and social oppression. Matthaus Wukasch was one of these immigrants who chose to leave his home and relatives to come to a new place and start again.

When the Wends reached Texas, they founded a community approximately 60 miles southeast of Austin, near present-day Gliddings. This community was nostalgically named Serbin because the settlers were all Serbs (Wends). Here Matthaus continued in his former occupation, that of a sawmill operator.¹

His wife was Anne Mbro sack, whom he married before he came to this country. Their children, four of whom were born before the journey to Texas, were Johan, George, Matthes, Marie, and August.² Decendants of August and George eventually moved to Austin, and it is the story of these people that I will now recount.

1. Anne Blasig, The Wends of Texas (San Antonio: The Naylor Co. 1954)

2. Family tree compiled by Martin Wukasch

My great grandfather, George, was born on September 17, 1847, also in Prussia. He came to Texas with his family when he was only seven years old, and it was in Serbin that he grew up and lived. He received an education that was considered standard in those days, probably not past the third grade of the small parochial school in the Serbin community. Then he worked as a farmer, though he never owned a farm but always rented from someone else. His first wife, Marie Knippa, died shortly after their son Charles was born in 1875. George's second wife, Marie Pilack, was the mother of his other children, who are listed below with their birth dates: Selma, whose birth date is not known but who died of diphtheria at the age of two; Gerhard, 1880; Martha, 1882; Louise, 1887; Frieda, 1889; Joe, 1892; August, 1894; and Otto, 1899.

In 1900, when the baby, Otto, was only a year old, his father George died. From then on, things were harder for the family than before. In the last decade of the nineteenth century, there had been a drought in the Serbin area, and the family, with many small children and no father, was having financial difficulty. Thus in 1898, the eldest son Charles, who was then twenty-three, left home for Austin. Once here, he did not stay, but enlisted in the U. S. Army at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war. He served throughout the war with Troop G of the First Texas Volunteers. After the war, he returned to Austin and worked for Henry Maerki, who operated the original Lundberg Bakery on Congress Avenue. Then in 1902, having carefully saved his wages, he bought property at 24th and Guadalupe Streets and opened "Charlie's Confectionary." It was later moved to 23rd

and Guadalupe, in 1904.

The confectionary for more than a quarter of a century was a favorite hang-out of University students. Many graduates worked their way through school by helping wait tables at Charlie's. Charles, himself, retired in 1929, but remained very active until 1954, the time of his death.³

Since 1903, Charles had been married to Emma Hannusch. Their children were Edna, Walter and Martin.

Shortly after Charles had left Serbin for Austin, Martha, Louise, Frieda, Joe and Gerhard also followed. Since they had no special training, the girls' employment was as domestics and the boys worked as carriage drivers, errand boys, and store clerks.

After August had completed his confirmation (at fourteen), he and his mother and smaller brother Otto moved to Austin. There all the children worked to support their mother and to build a family home on 17th Street. Austin at this time boasted one paved street, Congress Avenue, paved with brick. A streetcar track ran down the center of the Avenue, from 1st Street to the Capitol. Car fare was 5¢, and anyone could ride from 1st Street all the way out to Hyde Park in North Austin for that price.

(At the corner of 1st Street and Congress Avenue, the Wukasch name had already been established--by Henry Wukasch, a cousin of George's children. Henry, the son of August, brother to George, worked for E. K. Black on East Sixth Street before establishing his own general store at 1st and Congress. His store

3. "Charles Wukasch Funeral Scheduled Thursday," Austin American, March 24, 1954, Page 1.

was built of limestone, but had a dirt floor originally. It featured dry goods, notions, hats, groceries, and lots of "Gemuetlichkeit" around the pot-bellied stove.)⁴

In the University neighborhood, seven more Wukasches began to consolidate efforts and establish businesses of their own. The youngest girl, Frieda, married Franz Glauning, a German-born cabinet maker who worked at Calcasieu. Their children are Otto and Elsie. Frieda died in 1964; her husband preceded her in death in 1950.

The two younger boys, August and Otto, established a cafe business next door to their older brother, Joe's, grocery store. The two-storied building at 23rd and Guadalupe in the early years served as home for Martha, Louise and their aging mother, Marie. The girls, both of whom never married, worked several years for their brothers in the cafe and later established their own bake shop at 1907 Wichita. Here they worked until February, 1967, when their land was confiscated by the University of Texas. They then relocated to 3906 Becker Avenue, where they are continuing their business after more than fifty years.

The cafe owned by August and Otto was known simply as "Wukasch Brothers' Cafe." Nextdoor, to the south, was a cleaning and pressing shop, and in June of 1920 an explosion in this shop destroyed the businesses of August, Otto and Joe. After this, Otto and August moved down the street to 2002 Guadalupe, where business continued as before until 1956, when Otto died. Shortly thereafter August closed the business and retired.

August is married to Esther Teinert. Their children are

4. Personal interview with Henry Wukasch, November 19, 1967 in Austin.

Frances, Irene, and Doris.

Otto was married to Alma Kleschnick. They had no children.

Gerhard, known to the family as "Jerry," lived with Martha and Louise for a number of years, working at odd jobs. He was married to Annie Edling, who died in 1962. Jerry now lives in Houston with his two adopted sons.

After the explosion in 1920, Joe moved his grocery store to 2000 Guadalupe, again nextdoor to his brothers' cafe. Here his business flourished. The store operated an extensive delivery service all over Austin and to many different people. University students were frequent customers, and all the large fraternity and sorority houses were regularly served. While both were in office, and for years afterward, Governor and Mrs. Ferguson had their groceries delivered from Joe's store. But all this came abruptly to a halt when Joe died on June 2, 1952. Since then his store has seen a variety of tenants--dancing school, parochial classroom, typewriter repair and display shop, and even an architect's office.⁵

As mentioned above, the children of Charles and Emma Wukasch, namely Edna, Walter, and Martin, all graduated from the University of Texas. All are married and have families, but only the two sons remained in Austin. Walter, a local merchant who operates a chain of package stores, is married to Billie Teykl. Their children are Don, a medical doctor, who is married to Linda Tucker, and Barry, an engineer. Martin, an engineer, married Ruth Faubion. Their children are Charles, Kenneth, James and Jan. Charles is teaching school near Austin. Kenneth, Jim and Jan are students.

Frieda's son, Otto Glauninger is married to Minnie Meryl

5. Interview with Mrs. Joe Wukasch, November 19, 1967, Austin.

and they have two young girls, both still in school. Otto is in the restaurant business. Otto's sister, Elsie, is married to Albert Ragsdale, and they have four children: Thomas, Frances, Connie and Glenn, all students. Elsie, herself, teaches school.

The children of August and Esther Wukasch are all girls, but only one, Frances, lives in Austin. Her husband is Edgar Knippa, and their children are John, studying architecture at the University, and Jan, a student.

My grandfather, Joe, married Alma Kissmann. Their two children are Eugene and Earl. Earl is an engineer and a teacher. He is married to Elaine Weitlich and their children are David, Marsha, Karen, Paul, and Gail who are all students. My father, Eugene, is an architect and an engineer. He is married to Doris Stork, and their children are Linda, a senior at U. T.; Susan (that's I) and Jean, both at high school; and Jonathan in junior high.

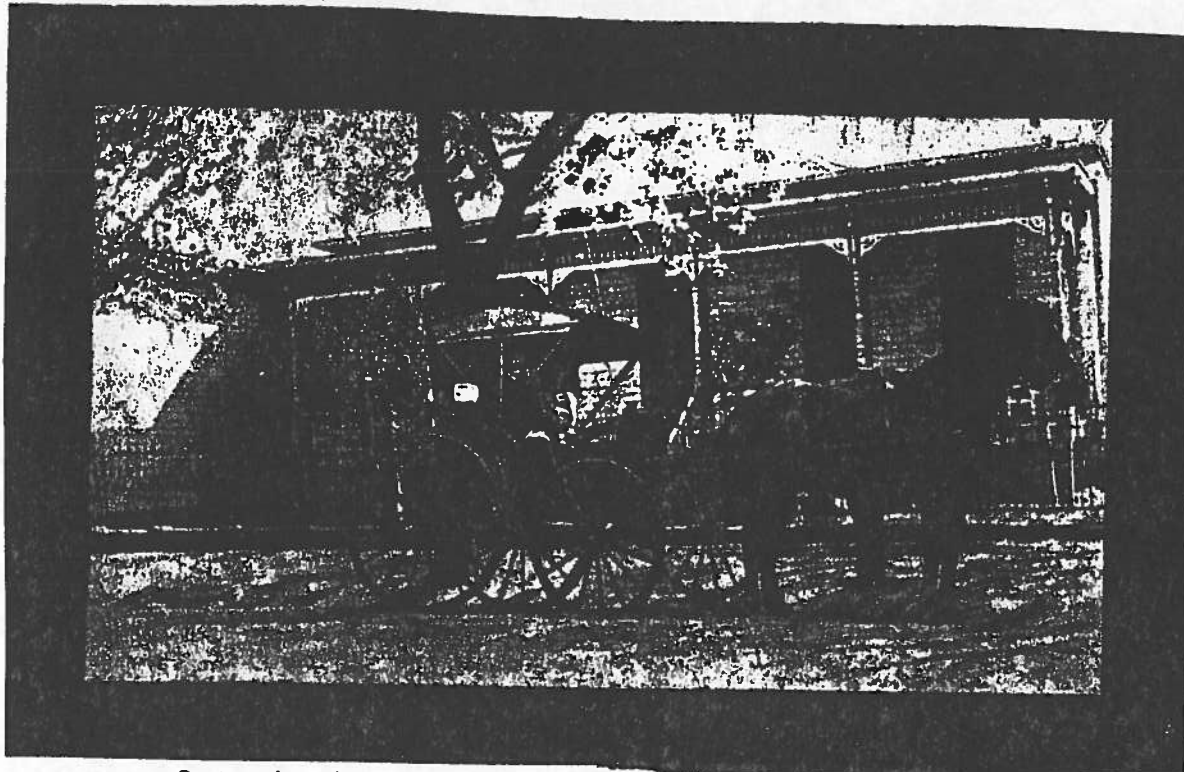
When I first conceived the idea of writing my family history in connection with the history of Austin, I thought it was a rather conceited thing to do. Perhaps it is, but in exploring my family's past I have discovered what wonderful and hard-working people my ancestors were, and realizing this ^{fact} has brought me to a better understanding of myself and my generation.

320
Wukasch photo
1915



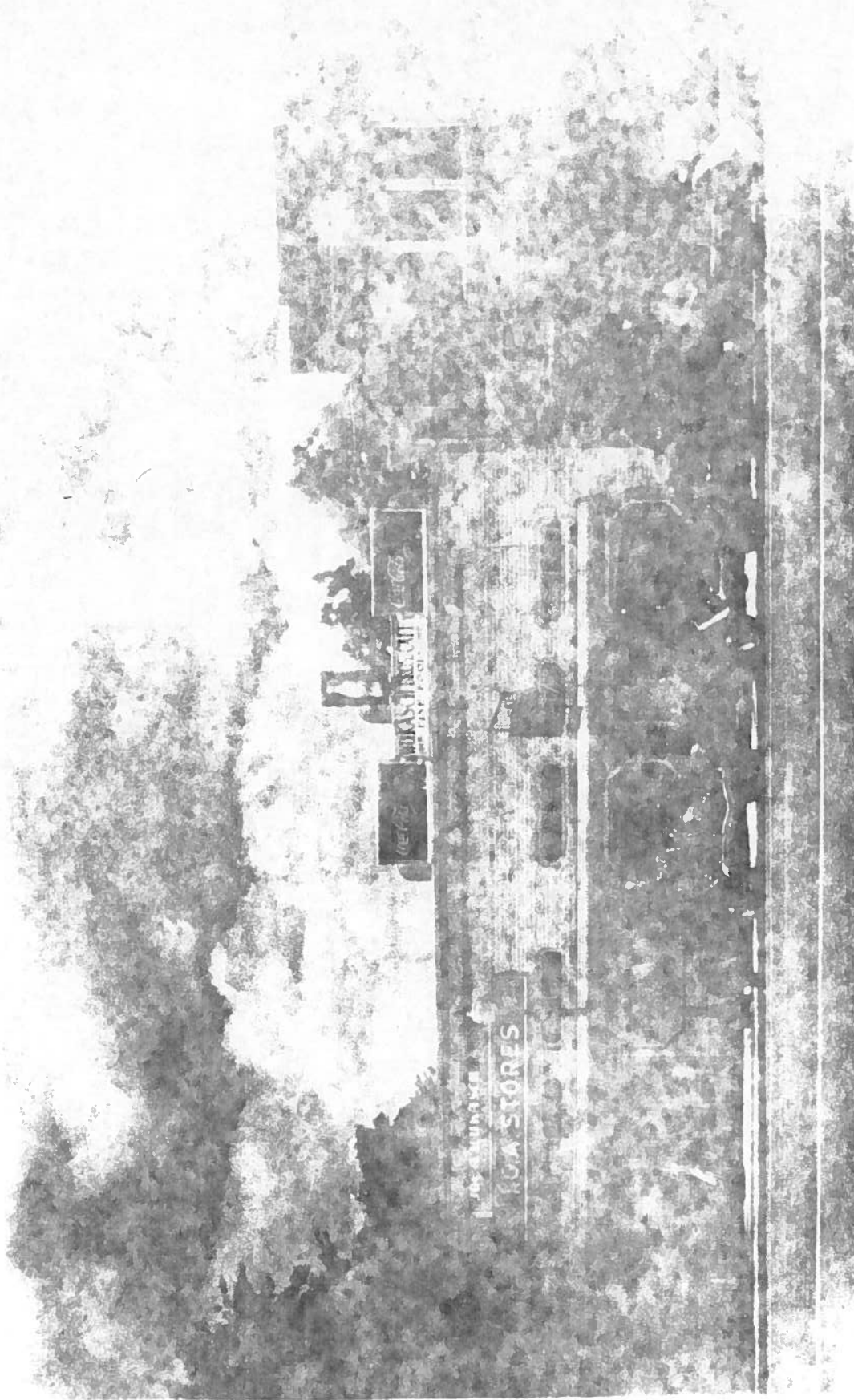
Store Building, 100-102 Congress Ave., Austin, Texas.
Henry Wukasch General Store
Congress Avenue & West First Streets
Austin, Texas

Post Card - 1915



Private transportation via hack or buggy

15-115



Grocery Store and Cafe after relocation at 2000 and 2002 Guadalupe
(1921 to 1950's and up to present)
(Now occupied by Duncan Typewriter Co. and Roy Byrd Cleaners)

Joe E. Wukasch remembered, revered

AIA Austin members and the Austin construction industry were saddened to learn of the death of Joe (Gene) Eugene Wukasch, Emeritus AIA on Oct. 31, 2001.

Mr. Wukasch was 80 years old.

"No one called him Joe; everyone called him Eugene or Gene," said Girard Kinney, AIA, and owner of *Kinney & Associates Architects and Urban Designers*. "I called him Eugene, but most people called him Gene."

Kinney was a former colleague and partner with Wukasch at his firm, *Wukasch and Associates*.

"We met through a fellow from my first drafting job at *Calcasieu Lumber Co.*," Kinney said. "The man recruited me to work at Gene's office around 1964. His office was at 2000 Guadalupe St. in the basement of the building."

Though his work consisted of many kinds of projects, one of Gene's specialties was religious architecture, particularly Lutheran churches in Texas.

Another special architectural interest was the work he did on Air Force bases. He did work at Bergstrom Air Force Base, Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio and

other various bases around Texas.

"Eugene Wukasch was unique," Kinney said. "He was one of the most difficult people to work for at times. Yet through all of that, there has never been a more passionate architect, or a person who truly understood the entire range of what an architect does, from macro planning to the tiniest detail."



Restorations rounded out Gene's particular architectural interests. The bulk of his work in that area was restored churches, yet he also restored courthouses, the Daniel Caswell House in Austin, the Grove Drug Store in downtown Austin and others.

Gene not only had training in architecture, but formal education as a structural engineer. With that combined knowledge, he was able to show several sides to a project.

"The importance in marriage of structure and form is what I learned most from him," Kinney said. "I think the idea that the structural system of a building is able to express beauty and elegance is something he demonstrated well."

Wukasch's children include three daughters: Linda Thiering, Susan Wukasch, Jean Mihalik and one son, Jonathon Wukasch. Q

Members get new benefit

Starting immediately, the members of ASA Austin (American Subcontractors Association) will be able to view plans in the ABC plan room. The Associated Builders and Contractors have opened their doors at 3006 Longhorn Blvd. until the end of 2001. Both public and private plans will be available for viewing. To find out more information call 512-719-5263.

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Austin Construction News Dec 2001